

133 million in new and retained sales
47 million in new investments
1,409 jobs created or retained

Iowa Center for Industrial Research and Services (CIRAS) an ISU Extension office, provides education, research, and technical assistance to Iowa industry through partnerships with Iowa's universities and community colleges, government agencies, and professional associations.

CIRAS is the industrial extension arm of Iowa State University, one of the nation's premier land grant institutions. The CIRAS mission - to enhance the performance of Iowa industry - is an integral part of the history of Iowa State and the ISU Extension Service.

Assistance to companies is provided in partnership with Iowa's universities, community colleges and government agencies. Services are supported in part by the DoC/NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the DoD/DLA Procurement Technical Assistance Program, and the DoC/EDA University Center Program.

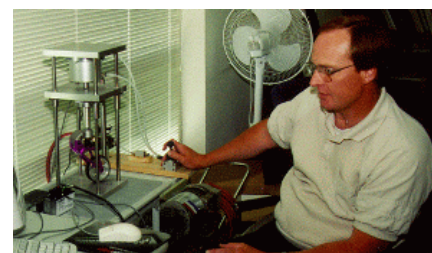
Service mix includes Bioindustry, Energy, Engineering, Government Contracting, Growth Strategies, Management Practices, Productivity, Quality management

For more information, contact:



15 field offices throughout Iowa

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* Impacts are based on clients receiving service in FY2009

CLIENT SUCCESS: STELLAR INDUSTRIES

“CIRAS has provided much needed training to get us engaged in the continuous improvement mode.”

Steve Schnieders, Operations Manager
Stellar Industries

CIRAS Helps Stellar Industries Increase Throughput

Stellar Industries is an OEM Manufacturer of truck bodies and crane systems for the construction and agricultural industry. Located in Garner, Iowa, the company employs 170 people.

Situation:

Stellar wanted to improve throughput of their manufacturing process, while utilizing existing floor space and manufacturing resources, and contacted the Iowa Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for assistance.

Solution:

CIRAS provided a team to assist with the mentoring process of Stellar staff and identify the constraints in their manufacturing processes. Specifically, the CIRAS team worked with Stellar to identify necessary changes, set a course of action, and develop a plan to sustain those changes with CIRAS's analysis and implementation assistance. The throughput of the assembly line for truck bodies was doubled, while utilizing the same amount of floor space and number of employees.

Results:

- * Increased sales by \$4.5 million.
- * Realized \$150,000 in cost savings.

Increased sales
by \$4.5 million

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